



ALFORD

Berkshire County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Alford was settled in 1750. It has no stores, no motels or hotels, and not a single gas station. The Main Street has a church, a town hall and a one room school house; the buildings are all historic. Alford's population is approximately 400, and they all enjoy the landscape of beautiful trees, brooks, and mountains.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southwestern Massachusetts, bordered by West Stockbridge on the north; Great Barrington on the east; Egremont on the south; and Hillsdale and Austerlitz, New York, on the west. Alford is 24 miles south of Pittsfield and 140 miles west of Boston.

Total Area: 11.56 sq. miles

Land Area: 11.56 sq. miles

Population: 418

Density: 36 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Great Barrington Station)

Normal temperature in January.....20.1°F

Normal temperature in July.....68.1°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Egremont, State Line

Regional Planning Agency

Berkshire County

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 528-4536

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1775

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 269

Democrats 49 18.2 % Republicans 52 19.3 % Other parties 0 0.0 % Unenrolled Voters 168 62.5 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Alford town, Berkshire County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	399	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	399	100.0
Male.....	188	47.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	-	-
Female.....	211	52.9	Mexican.....	-	-
Under 5 years.....	12	3.0	Puerto Rican.....	-	-
5 to 9 years.....	28	7.0	Cuban.....	-	-
10 to 14 years.....	27	6.8	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	-	-
15 to 19 years.....	20	5.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	399	100.0
20 to 24 years.....	10	2.5	White alone.....	395	99.0
25 to 34 years.....	22	5.5	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	50	12.5	Total population.....	399	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	89	22.3	In households.....	399	100.0
55 to 59 years.....	47	11.8	Householder.....	171	42.9
60 to 64 years.....	30	7.5	Spouse.....	102	25.6
65 to 74 years.....	31	7.8	Child.....	95	23.8
75 to 84 years.....	26	6.5	Own child under 18 years.....	77	19.3
85 years and over.....	7	1.8	Other relatives.....	16	4.0
Median age (years).....	49.5	(X)	Under 18 years.....	5	1.3
18 years and over.....	316	79.2	Nonrelatives.....	15	3.8
Male.....	153	38.3	Unmarried partner.....	5	1.3
Female.....	163	40.9	In group quarters.....	-	-
21 years and over.....	309	77.4	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	79	19.8	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	64	16.0	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	34	8.5	Total households.....	171	100.0
Female.....	30	7.5	Family households (families).....	114	66.7
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	39	22.8
One race.....	398	99.7	Married-couple family.....	102	59.6
White.....	395	99.0	With own children under 18 years.....	32	18.7
Black or African American.....	3	0.8	Female householder, no husband present.....	8	4.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	-	-	With own children under 18 years.....	4	2.3
Asian.....	-	-	Nonfamily households.....	57	33.3
Asian Indian.....	-	-	Householder living alone.....	51	29.8
Chinese.....	-	-	Householder 65 years and over.....	18	10.5
Filipino.....	-	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	40	23.4
Japanese.....	-	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over ..	47	27.5
Korean.....	-	-	Average household size.....	2.33	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.87	(X)
Other Asian ¹	-	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	279	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	171	61.3
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	108	38.7
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	106	38.0
Some other race.....	-	-	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	-	(X)
Two or more races.....	1	0.3	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	-	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	171	100.0
White.....	396	99.2	Owner-occupied housing units.....	158	92.4
Black or African American.....	3	0.8	Renter-occupied housing units.....	13	7.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	1	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units ..	2.37	(X)
Asian.....	-	-	Average household size of renter-occupied units ..	1.92	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-			
Some other race.....	-	-			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Department of Housing and Community Development
Mitt Romney, Governor, Jane Wallis Gumble, Director



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Alford is situated in Berkshire County, a region of hills and low mountains that widen to create the Berkshire Valley in the south. The major cities and towns are linked together by U.S. Route 7. North Adams and Pittsfield are major points of entry for rail freight into Massachusetts, and the region has several commercial airports. Public roads and highways meet the requirements of modern transportation.

Major Highways

The principal highway is State Route 71, which connects Alford to Great Barrington.

Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service in Alford, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts and New York is easily accessible.

Bus

Alford is not affiliated with any regional transit authority.

Other

The Great Barrington Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 2,579'x 50' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-Precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

None

MUSEUMS

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.